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THE CONDOR.

Bulletin of the

COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB

OF CALIFORNIA.

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and as Official Organ of the Club.

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EDITORIAL.

Boom the State Meeting of 1903!

In our last issue the note entitled "The Passing of the Great Blue Heron at Santa Monica" should have been credited to Mr. W. Lee Chambers instead of to "W. Lee."

With the exception of the January number, THE CONDOR will be mailed to subscribers untrimmed. While we feel that this feature in a measure mars the appearance of the magazine, it will be appreciated when the files are bound and the ultimate disposal of the issues is after all most essential.

With the advent of summer our ornithologists will soon be afield, engaged in their annual study of birds. The present season among Club members should result in the production of many excellent monographs. It should be remembered that a paper treating of a single species is apt to be of greater value than one dealing too largely in generalities.

The series of articles on the 'Bird Clubs of America' at present being published in *Bird Lore* have a peculiar interest to ornithologists, especially in view of the publication of photographs of representative meetings of the various clubs. Thus far groups of the Nuttall and Delaware Valley Ornithological clubs have appeared. In the absence of personal acquaintance, nothing is so potent in promoting a friendly interest among ornithologists as the camera. THE CONDOR has at times contemplated the publication of a Cooper Club group, but in view of the coming State Meeting in

1903, we modestly defer the pleasure until July-August 1903!

Before the next issue of THE CONDOR shall have appeared the Cooper Ornithological Club will have celebrated its ninth year of existence. June 22 will serve as a reminder to the four then young ornithologists whom Fate made the Club's founders nine years ago, and will recall an enthusiastic organization meeting which had reached its consummation after much planning, lacking none of that bold assurance which older heads might scarcely have essayed to assume. That the movement steadily gathered strength the Club and THE CONDOR are living proof. Aside from this comment it is unlikely that the coming 22nd of June will be accorded further attention. Nor is it necessary.

But with another brief twelve-months will occur the Club's tenth anniversary,—an occasion which the ornithologists of California should make memorable. The initial steps have already been taken for the holding of a State Meeting, and the coming year will afford none too much time to perfect arrangements for an enthusiastic and profitable gathering of bird men. The suggestions set forth in this journal some months ago have been acted upon and a State Committee composed of the following gentlemen has already been appointed:—W. Otto Emerson (Chairman), Jno. O. Snyder, J. Eugene Law, Frank S. Daggett and C. Barlow.

There will rest with the committee the arrangement of a mass of details necessary to the success of the congress. A place of meeting must first be agreed upon, and should be so arranged as to secure the largest possible attendance of members. The selection of San Francisco would appear logical, but the matter will rest with the committee in charge. A two or three days' session should be arranged for, and the attendance of "outside," or distant members should be urged. From the records of the Northern Division for a year past it appears that 54 individual members were in attendance at the six meetings, some being present at all the meetings while others attended but a single session. This denotes that many journeyed considerable distances to attend the meetings. It would therefore seem a conservative estimate to expect the presence of one-third of the entire Club membership at the State Meeting. Should this prove true, California would witness an intensely enthusiastic gathering of bird men, which would perforce result in a large measure of mutual benefit and enjoyment to those so present.

Having decided on the place of meeting, a live programme committee should be established to work unceasingly for the coming year. Features of current and special interest should be introduced, and a programme of economic ornithology should be arranged to cover an afternoon. From the large active membership of the Club a string of meritorious papers, covering a wide range of subjects, could be secured. In view of the propitious conditions, the State Meeting of 1903 should and will be made memorable!